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REGISTERED TO PRACTICE BEFORE

U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Serial Number: 09/661,876
Filed: 14 September 2000
Applicant: Joshua Haghpassand
Title: WEB-BASED SECURITY AND FILTERING SYSTEM WITH
                    PROXY CHAINING
Group Art Unit: 2181

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Attached is a completed Form PTO-1449 and copies of the pertinent parts of the references cited thereon. Below are comments on these references pursuant to Rule 98:

U.S. Patent No. 6,052,788 to Wesinger, Jr. et al. discloses a firewall employing "envoys", without an establishment of which no traffic can pass, the firewall configured as two or more sets of virtual hosts; one set of hosts responding to addresses on a first network interface of the firewall, another set of hosts responding to addresses on a second network interface of the firewall.

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U.S. Patent 6,018,619 to Allard et al. discloses a method of tracking usage patterns of users of hypermedia systems such as the Web by creating a usage log on a user's client computer and periodically transmitting the usage log from the user's computer to a usage tracking server, and further incorporating data so transmitted into an overall usage log for a given server computer.

U.S. Patent 6,003,077 to Bawden et al. discloses a client computer having a standard Web browser while utilizing the services of a Web/SNMP proxy agent, which agent automatically locates, by looking up the location in the DNS, the ASN.1 specification of each Management Information Base (MIB) module of any identified SNMP agent, and compiles the ASN.1 MIB module specifications into HTML documents for viewing on the client computer.

U.S. Patent 5,996,011 to Humes discloses a system and method for restricting access to data received by a computer over a network by filtering certain data from the data received, including especially material of a possibly objectionable nature.

U.S. Patent 5,918,013 to Mighdoll discloses a method of providing a document to a client coupled to a server wherein the server functions as a caching proxy on behalf of the client for purpose of accessing the Web, storing in a persistent document database various attributes of all documents previously retrieved in response to a request from a client, and transcoding a document retrieved from a remote server in response to a request from the client, making use of the document database.

U.S. Patent 5,915,087 to Hammond et al. discloses a proxy

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which is part of a firewall program and controls exchanges of messages between two applications by interrogating, in accordance with defined authentication procedures, attempts by requesting entities to send a communication session to a server, directing a communications stack to monitor connection messages to any address on specific ports, extracting a requestor's address an a server's address for checking in compliance with a security policy.

U.S. Patent 5,903,732 to Reed et al. discloses a Web platform implementing an access control policy and employing a process and file structure separated into an outside compartment, comprising a Web server associated with a directory tree containing only a minimal set of files required to interface with the internet, an inside compartment, comprising a plurality of CGI applications such that the Web server cannot communicate directly with the CGI application, and a trusted gateway agent for communicating between the Web server and the CGI applications.

U.S. Patent 5,898,830 to Wesinger, Jr. et al. discloses a firewall employing "envoys", and is a parent case of U.S. Patent 6,052,788, supra.

U.S. Patent 5,805,820 to Bellovin et al. discloses a method and device for redirecting queries in order to restrict access to private information of a domain in a domain name system, the device comprising a switching device which redirects request for restricted information originating within the domain to a device within the domain.

U.S. Patent 5,805,803 to Birrell et al. discloses a method in

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which client computer connected to a public network makes a request in a public message for an intranet resource to a "tunnel" of a firewall isolating the intranet from the internet, the tunnel sending a message to the client to redirect the request to a proxy server, the request to be accompanied by a token which is checked for validity by the proxy server.
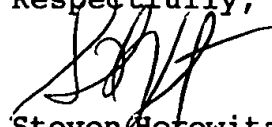
U.S. Patent 5,748,882 to Huang discloses techniques for fault-tolerant computing employing a monitor daemon implemented as one or more user processes and a function library, whereby a user process executing on ordinary hardware under an ordinary operating system is made fault-tolerant by registering it with the daemon, which registration results in defining portions of a user process's memory as critical memory, copying critical memory to persistent storage and restoring the critical memory from persistent storage in an event of a crash.

U.S. Patent 5,696,898 to Baker et al. discloses a system for selectively controlling database access by restricting specific system users from accessing information from certain public or otherwise uncontrolled databases, employing a relational database to determine access rights.

None of these prior patents alone or taken in combination discloses a customizable system for filtering web-based HTTP requests for outbound and inbound access to web sites wherein the system has an administrative module including configuration settings for inbound and outbound communications and a list maintenance function and wherein the administrative module is

located in a user computer for configuring a range of access levels from maximum 100% access to full suspension and has an administrator account, regular accounts and an anonymous guest account to be used by all users with no valid system user name and password, wherein if a user attempts to access an unfriendly site the user is anonymously forwarded to a friendly site or the request is terminated, the customizable system further including a first proxy server in each user computer of a local area network having access to the world wide web and having a customizable friendly and unfriendly outbound list, one of which is active, and a customizable friendly and unfriendly inbound list, one of which is active, the customizable system also including a second HTTP proxy server without an administrative module or friendly or unfriendly lists and placed between the first proxy server and the Internet, being located as a gateway of a Local Area Network system or at an Internet Service Provider domain, the second proxy being capable of communicating to a proxy of a destination or directly to a destination and having an Internet Protocol address known only to the system administrator, wherein the system automatically generates a logfile of all web sites visited by each user and wherein for single users in a home or office the second proxy is provided through the Internet Service Provider.

Respectfully,

Steven Horowitz, Reg. No. 31,768

Enclosures

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that on March 1, 2001, in connection with patent application no. **09/661,876** for WEB-BASED SECURITY AND FILTERING SYSTEM WITH PROXY CHAINING I deposited : (i) 5 pages of **Information Disclosure Statement** (ii) form PTO-1449 (iii) copies of prior art references (iv) this Certificate of Mailing and (v) an Acknowledgment postcard

with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the address below:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Dated: March 1, 2001